

PATENT
Atty. Dkt. No. ROC920000331US1
PS Ref. No.: IBM2K0331

REMARKS

This is intended as a full and complete response to the Office Action dated July 1, 2005, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on October 1, 2005. Please reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below.

Claims 1-8 and 10-16 are pending in the application. Claims 1-8 and 10-16 remain pending following entry of this response.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-8 and 10-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by *Blumenau et al.* (US Pat. No. 6,665,714 B1, hereinafter "*Blumenau*"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

"A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference." *Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987). "The identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as is contained in the ... claim." *Richardson v. Suzuki Motor Co.*, 868 F.2d 1226, 1236, 9 USPQ2d 1913, 1920 (Fed. Cir. 1989). The elements must be arranged as required by the claim. *In re Bond*, 910 F.2d 831, 15 USPQ2d 1566 (Fed. Cir. 1990).

In this case, *Blumenau* does not disclose "each and every element as set forth in the claim". Generally, *Blumenau* discloses a method and apparatus for managing the availability and assignment of data in a storage system that is coupled to a network. In the passages and the figures cited by the Examiner, *Blumenau* discloses a graphical user interface (GUI) via which a storage system may be linked to a host processor. In particular, the GUI provides respective icons which represent storage systems, storage volumes of a selected storage system, storage adapter ports, host processors and host bus adapters. A user may select the icons representing a particular storage volume and a host processor to be linked and select an action (i.e., from a pull-down menu) to add access by the host system to the selected storage volume. However, the selections are performed by a user, and *Blumenau* does not teach, show or suggest the steps

PATENT
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performed by the host server operating system and by the network server operating system in response to requests send to each other as claimed.

For example, *Blumenau* does not disclose adding a new disk drive image to a network server description for the network server through a host server operating system. The Examiner argues that *Blumenau* discloses such features at col. 31, line 15 to col. 32, line 11. However, the cited passage is in fact directed to a GUI which has expandable icons that may display existing storage volumes of a storage system. No "new disk drive image" is added, and only existing storage volume icons are displayed by clicking on a storage system icon. As another example, *Blumenau* does not disclose sending a device scanning request from the network server operating system to the host server operating system in response to a dynamic linking request. In this regard, the Examiner argues that *Blumenau* discloses showing the available devices. However, such available devices are merely icon displays of storage systems and associated storage volumes. No device scanning request is sent. Applicants submit that clicking on an icon to expand the icon is not equivalent to a device scanning request. As another example, *Blumenau* does not disclose requesting a response from each device connected to each SCSI port of a host server in response to the device scanning request. The Examiner argues that *Blumenau* discloses identifying the storage devices connected to a server. However, the passages and figures cited by the Examiner are merely directed to a GUI showing the user selected components that are connected. *Blumenau* simply does not teach show or suggest requesting response from each connected device, particularly, in response to a device scanning request.

Therefore, the claims are believed to be allowable, and allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

The secondary references made of record are noted. However, it is believed that the secondary references are no more pertinent to the Applicants' disclosure than the primary references cited in the office action. Therefore, Applicants believe that a detailed discussion of the secondary references is not necessary for a full and complete response to this office action.


Page 6

400293_1

PATENT
Atty. Dkt. No. ROC920000331US1
PS Ref. No.: IBM2K0331

Having addressed all issues set out in the office action, Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully request that the claims be allowed.

Respectfully submitted,



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Page 7

400293_1